BBA 708

華埠社區簡報

CHINATOWN

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DRAFT CHINATOWN COMMUNITY PLAN AND ZONING SUMMARY

January 1990

CHINATOWN: A COMMUNITY AT A CROSSROADS

Chinatown is a community at a crossroads. For more than 30 years, the neighborhood has struggled with highway construction, institutional expansion, and downtown encroachment. The Chinatown neighborhood, which more than tripled in population from 1950 to 1987, has lost over half of its land to new roads and medical institutions. Meanwhile, the quality of life in Chinatown has been diminished by the nearby Combat Zone.

The Critical Turning Point

In 1986, the disparate forces of neighborhood growth and institutional development collided over a proposal to build a 600-car garage for institutional use on a Chinatown site. The neighborhood's opposition to the garage proposal was supported by the city, which made the needs of the community, not the institutions, the basis for land use planning. The city's decision to support the neighborhood in rejecting the garage proposal set the course for a community-based master planning effort to guide future land use in Chinatown.

This critical turning point in the history of Chinatown land use planning and development culminated with the 1988 designation of the Quincy School Community Council as the redeveloper of a city-owned parcel in Chinatown. The designation was challenged in court by the neighboring institutions, but the community and the city prevailed in court. The court confirmed the city's and the community's position that city planning should respond to changing socio-economic conditions in order to address community needs for affordable housing and services.

The Chinatown Community Plan marks the first time in the history of the neighborhood when community concerns and aspirations guided the City's blueprint for future planning and development affecting Chinatown and the vicinity.

COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING PROCESS

The joint master plan initiative for Chinatown was launched in July of 1987 by the Chinatown-South Cove Neighborhood Council (CNC) and the City. This joint initiative came at a significant juncture when Chinatown is again faced with the challenge of institutional growth, downtown development and highway building. Throughout the planning process, the neighborhood council was responsible for steering and coordinating community participation with technical assistance from professional consultants, a MIT Urban Design

Studio, and an interdisciplinary city planning staff. The Chinatown Community Plan and Zoning Plan adopted by the City will embody the common vision and community spirit that has evolved through this grassroots planning effort for Chinatown.

POLICY FRAMEWORK AND THE CHINATOWN COMMUNITY PLAN

The long-term viability and prosperity of Chinatown as a historic residential neighborhood and a cultural, business, and service center will ultimately enrich Boston as a city of neighborhoods that thrives on its diverse heritage. Guided by this common vision, the policy goals and objectives of the comprehensive development plan for Chinatown are:

- o to strengthen the family oriented nature of the neighborhood through the creation of affordable housing;
- o to broaden Chinatown's economic base through the reinforcement of the community service network and the provision of opportunities for the expansion and diversification of business and employment.
- o to enhance Chinatown's cultural heritage and strengthen the historic streetscape;
- o to protect Chinatown's historic land base through the redirection of institutional development to the periphery of the district and the prevention of further infringement by highway construction; and
- o to reconnect the neighborhood with the City functionally, visually and physically through land use planning, urban design measures, and traffic mitigation.

The supply of quality housing will be increased with a priority placed on affordable housing, to reinforce the family oriented nature of the neighborhood. On Parcels A and B, between Oak Street and Marginal Road, 260 units of housing, two thirds of which will be affordable, are undergoing preliminary design. These units to be produced by two community-based development corporations with financial assistance from the city will increase affordable family units as well as homeownership opportunities in Chinatown.

Community Service programs essential to the quality of life and continuing development of the immigrant community will be expanded and enhanced. A new, 90,000 sq. ft. community center is planned for Parcel C, between Oak Street and Nassau Street, enabling several major providers in Chinatown to expand services and upgrade facilities for child care, job training and advocacy, health care, youth programs, and cultural activities.

The rich diversity and vitality of the Chinatown built environment will be enhanced while its image, visibility, and environmental

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quality is reinforced. This will be achieved through use regulations, urban design guidelines and environmental control standards that govern use distribution, building setbacks and heights, streetscape enhancement, open space improvement, and environmental mitigation for water table, traffic, construction, and etc.

While neighborhood businesses are encouraged to locate in the historic core, large expansions will be directed to the edges of the neighborhood where the transportation infrastructure can support increased traffic. In addition, development of neighborhood enterprises and diversification of business types and employment fields will be facilitated.

Transportation access to and from Chinatown will be maximized, while its pedestrian environment and connection with the surrounding districts will be upgraded. Vehicular circulation and parking for residents, businesses, and community services in the neighborhood will be improved. The Boston Transportation Department and the Chinatown-South Cove Neighborhood Council are developing a transportation plan and improvement program for Chinatown.

To further support the planning goals and objectives for Chinatown, City policies coupled with community advocacy efforts result in financial resources, including linkage contributions from downtown projects, and additional housing and economic opportunities in the neighboring Midtown Cultural District and South Station Economic Development Area.

The purpose of a comprehensive development plan for Chinatown is to generate a social, economic, and physical environment that supports and nurtures community growth without undermining the quality of 'life or destroying the singular identity and legacies of the neighborhood dating from the late 19th century.

CHINATOWN DISTRICT ZONING PLAN

The zoning plan sets forth the legal guidelines for building height, density, and land use for future development in Chinatown. To implement the Chinatown Community Plan, provisions of the new zoning plan include:

Business and Economic Development: Neighborhood businesses are encouraged to expand into the old Combat Zone area and the Hinge Block, and major new and large scale mixed-use and possible institutional development is under consideration for the gateway site, providing jobs and economic expansion and growth.

Land Use: To protect the existing commercial and residential mixed-use environment of Chinatown, a number of uses have been selected for regulation by floors. Chinatown is a neighborhood in which uses vary by floor; a store may be in the basement, a

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restaurant on the first floor, and residences above. Vertical zoning allows for commercial establishments on the lower levels, while protecting the residences above.

Open Space Districts: To protect and expand public parks, recreation areas, and green spaces in Chinatown, four permanent Open Space Districts are proposed: Gateway Park, Gateway Park Expansion Area, Pagoda Park, and Tai Tung Park. The Gateway Park will be expanded when the Central Artery ramp at Beach Street is closed. New parks will be added on the Turnpike air-rights, along the edge of the Gateway site on Hudson Streets and further east of the roadway structure. Creative provisions for open space will be required with each new major housing development. Additional open space areas may be designated as a result of the comprehensive planning study for the Special Study Areas.

Protection Areas: The historic and cultural legacies of Chinatown's buildings and streets will be preserved while allowing for incremental changes through the creation of three Historic Protection Areas. These include Liberty Tree National Register District, the Beach/Knapp Street National Register District, and the Historic Chinatown area. Building heights will follow the historical precedent of 65 feet (5 stories) within these areas and building design must be sympathetic to the historic fabric of the area.

As-Of-Right Height and Density Regulations: A proposed project within Chinatown, with the exception of the protection or special study areas, is allowed an as-of-right building height of 80 feet (6 stories) and FAR 6 (gross floor area about 6 times the building site). With design review, building height can increase to 100 feet (8 stories) and building density to FAR 7, except in the Institutional Substrict where building height can increase to 125 feet (11 stories) and density to FAR 8. These regulations will protect the scale and character of the residential, commercial, and institutional areas in Chinatown, while providing room for further growth and expansion.

Planned Development Areas: The new zoning designates Planned Development Areas (PDA) in the Residential Chinatown area, the Turnpike Air-Rights, and the Chinatown Gateway areas. A PDA is an area where a more flexible zoning law is established to encourage desirable, large-scale growth on underutilized sites. The purpose of establishing PDAs are: to encourage the creation of affordable housing and open space, to create community facilities and provide community services, to furnish day care facilities, to provide for neighborhood economic development and commercial expansion which is compatible with adjacent uses, to provide connections from Chinatown to adjacent areas of the city, and to direct institutional expansion outside the core of Chinatown.

Special Study Areas: Comprehensive planning studies will be conducted for three Special Study Areas in Chinatown. All three areas face major changes as a result of the transportation

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construction projects which are still evolving. Permanent zoning regulations for the Special Study Areas will be proposed at the end of the study. The planning goals and objectives for these areas are:

- o Tyler Street Special Study Area: balance and integrate institutional development, housing, community services, and businesses.
- o Chinatown Gateway Special Study Area: balance the different needs for housing resources, economic diversification, entrepreneurial development, open space, and possibly institutional growth.
- o Turnpike Air-Rights Special Study Area: extend the existing residential areas and create community services and open space to benefit the abutting communities, including Chinatown, South End, and Bay Village.

ACHIEVING THE PLAN

The completion of the community-based master plan along with the adoption of the zoning plan is only the first step towards ensuring the long-term viability of Chinatown. Implementation of the plan will depend on the continued support of a host of public, private, and community entities. Public actions and creative intervention have to be enhanced with community initiative and private ingenuity. Continuing efforts in community empowerment, education, capacity building, and proactive participation are essential. With the community eventually owning over half of the land area in Chinatown, the future of Chinatown will be affected not only by public policies and private actions but by the choices made by the Chinatown community.

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華埠社區簡報

華埠社區整體計劃 華埠土地使用法規

華埠:位於叉路口上的社區

以社區為基礎的規劃過程

政策架構及華埠社區整體計劃

華埠長期以來的繁榮及活力使這個有歷史性的住宅區及文化、商業和服務中心豐富了波士頓,助其成為一個由多個不同文化傳統鄰區組成的興旺城市。就在這個共同現想的指引下,華埠全面發展計劃的長遠及短期的政策目標是:

- ★透過興建可負担房屋去強化華埠社 區以家庭為中心的特質 •
- *透過增強社區服務系統及提供商業和 就業擴充機會,擴展華埠的經濟 基礎。
- ★護助華埠文化傳統及加強具有歷史 性的街道形貌。
- **透過限制大機構擴展入華埠核心區 及避免日後公路修建的進度,從而 去維護傳統華埠的土地範疇。
- **透過土地使用規劃、市區設計指引 及交通措施,重新在功能、視覺上 及地理上把華埠與鄰區連結起來。

高品質房屋的供應將會增加,而可負担房屋是先決要點,以強化以家庭為基礎的鄰里特質·在屋街及馬津尼道之間的A及B地段將與建二百六十個住屋單位,而其中三份之二是可負担的,目前正進行初步設計。

這些住宅單元是由兩個以社區為本位 的發展機構負責興建,並獲市府提供 財務策劃及資源上的協助。主要目的 不僅是增加可負担的家庭住宅單元, 並且也同時增加在華埠自置產業的機 會。

社區服務是增進華埠居民生活素質及 支持華埠移民或員持續發展所不可或 缺的要素,因比在質與量雙方面都必 須繼續增進。

屋街及拿素街之間的 C 地段計劃興建 一所九萬平方英呎左右的社區服務中 心•華埠境內多個主要服務機構在托 兒·職訓、醫療、及靑年,文化活動 等方面能擴大服務並改善、提高設備 之品質。

典型鄰里小型商業應繼續集中在華埠 傳統的商業核心地帶,大型的商業擴 充則被導引到華埠邊緣地點以便利用 既有的交通網路,避免阻塞車行及人 行,華埠商業及就業類別的多元文化 也將得到支持。

華埠整體發展計劃之目的是塑造出一個社會及經濟環境去支援及培養社區的成長,而避免降低生活質素,或破壞華埠源自十九世紀末的獨特風貌與傳統。

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華埠土地使用法規

華埠土地使用法規為在埠內的建築物高度、密度、日後土地發展的使用訂定合法的準則。為實施整體計劃,新的華埠土地使用法規包括:

商業及經濟發展:鼓勵鄰里商業推向 日漸萎縮的風化區及位處中城文化區 及華埠相交處的鉸鍊區段擴展。而華 埠門樓區則可以容納主要新增添的的 大型的混合使用,並且可以考慮學院 機構之發展,以便提供就業及經濟擴 展與成長的機會。

土地使用:為保障華埠現有商業及住 宅混合使用環境,某些使用將分層規 定。在華埠內,讓宇的使用是逐層不同的,地下層可能是一間商店,一樓 是酒樓,而以上便是住宅了。垂直的 使用管制,讓樓宇的低層部份作為住宅 用途;而高層部份仍可以作為住宅 用途。



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及指令《新基》在公教业等的 主教政、新工业部的商政部。 《影響集》、《報光》集終 《異語》與"報光》集終 規劃研討特區:為華埠內三個規劃研討特區進行全面的規劃研究。由於目前仍在策劃中的交通運輸工程計劃,這三個地區均面臨主要的改變。研討計劃結束後,方擬定永久性的土地使用法規,此等地區的長程及短期目標是:

- ★泰勒街規劃研討特區: 讓大機構發展、房屋、社區服務及商業得以平衡及相互融合。
- *華埠門樓規劃研討特區:平衡房屋 資源,經濟多元化,商業發展,開 效空間及可能的大機構增長的多種 不同需要。
- ** 麻省收費公路上空發展規劃研討特 區:延伸現有的住宅社區,設置社 區服務與開放空間,以加惠華埠、 南端及灣邨毗鄰的社區。

實行策略